

**Mayor's Night Out
Ramona Neighborhood
January 26, 2005**

Resident #1

Doesn't feel safe in her apartment complex. There have been traffic mishaps, car theft, armed robbery and other incidents. The Magnolia-area building has a Crime-Free Multi-Housing sign but no enforcement. There needs to be more police presence in multi-family units.

Officer John Start of the Crime Free Multi-House Unit has contacted the resident and discussed the problems occurring at the Emerald Palm apartments. Officer Start is currently working with the manager to resolve the issues brought up at the Ramona Neighborhood Mayor's Night Out. The apartment manager is being coached on the best methods to deal with security at the property and how to deal with problem tenants. Extra patrols have been assigned for this property. For more information please contact Police Department Central Commander Lt. Pete Esquivel at (951) 351-6039.

Resident #2

Recommends Stop signs on Pembroke Avenue and other streets, between Pembroke and Concord Place, to improve traffic safety. Speed humps are not a good alternative here.

Stop signs can be placed at intersections in residential neighborhoods. The process begins with a petition from the residents that live right at the intersection requesting the installation of multi way stop control. Once we have the petition, we do traffic counts to determine whether or not the City criteria are met. For more information please contact Traffic Engineer Fran Dunajski at (951) 826-5368.

Resident #3

The dugouts at Don Jones Park are the same used when I was a kid. The Little Leagues are hurting because of the poor state of repair. When is this park going to get the attention it deserves?

City staff met with the resident and visited the site. The dugouts seem to be in fairly good condition; however, over the years, the dugouts have been painted numerous times due to graffiti and have a coat of paint that is approximately a quarter of an inch thick and the kids often pick at and peel the paint. The Parks and Recreations staff is working with the Department of Public Works on utilizing the graffiti removal crew to water and blast the dugouts and snack bar building. For more information please contact Park and Recreation Director Ralph Nuñez at (951) 826-2000.

Resident #4

The palm trees along Castleman Street aren't trimmed like they should be. When the wind blows, there are palm fronds all over the place. The palm trees need attention.

Park Director Shirley Bennett and the Tree Committee met on February 17; a tree-trimming schedule for the palm trees was set up at that time. The situation has since been satisfactorily resolved. For more information please contact Park and Recreation Director Ralph Nuñez at (951) 826-2000.

Resident #5

- a) **Traffic services helped Adams Elementary sort out “No Parking” zones a few years ago. Now, the lack of red curbs, paired with “No Stopping At Any Time” signs sends mixed messages. We need a continuous red curb between the “No Stopping/No Parking” signs.**

The No Parking and Stopping Zones have been repainted by the Public Works Streets Division, and were completed within two days of the Mayor’s Night Out meeting. Signage has been corrected to appropriately reflect such zones. A review of the no parking and stopping zones is currently underway and upon completion, such zones will be appropriately marked with paint and signage. For more information please contact Traffic Engineer Fran Dunajski at (951) 826-5368.

- b) **When a crosswalk in front of Adams Elementary was moved to the south, the old white crossing lines were painted over. That paint has since faded and the different sets of visible white lines causes dangerous confusion. We need to have the old crosswalk lines sandblasted completely off the road surface.**

The Public Works Streets Division removed the visible white lines, which caused confusion for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The Streets Division is procuring a grinding machine that can permanently remove painted over street demarcations. This intersection will be one of the first areas addressed by the grinding machine. For more information please contact Traffic Engineer Fran Dunajski at (951) 826-5368.

Resident #6

- a) **We need updated street signs, or a new red curb. Not sure what signs are correct outside Adams Elementary School.**

Please see Resident #5a.

- b) **The corner of Adams Street and Brunswick Avenue used to have a crossing guard. It is such a big intersection; resident believes it should have a crossing guard despite the signal lights.**

A mid-block pedestrian crossing with signal lights was installed to facilitate students in crossing Adams Street at Brunswick Avenue. Since installed, it has eliminated the need for a crossing guard at this location. Children cross the street while traffic is completely stopped. For more information, please contact Traffic Bureau Commander Lt. Ken Carpenter at (951) 351-6039.

Resident 7

- a) **Concerned about the crossing guard. The corner of Delano Drive and Jackson Street is dangerous. Drivers don't see kids. What can I do?**

Currently, the city has 92 designated crossing locations with only 42 warranted crossings. The entire crossing guard program is under review by the City Council. One of the options under consideration is the elimination of the 50 non-warranted crossings. Until a decision is made on the program's status, it is unlikely that new locations will be considered. For more information, please contact Traffic Bureau Commander Lt. Ken Carpenter at (951) 351-6039.

- b) **The playground equipment at Hunt Park is in terrible shape. When will it be repaired or replaced?**

Replacement parts for the playground equipment have been ordered and should be installed within the next 30 days. For more information please contact Park and Recreation Director Ralph Nuñez at (951) 826-2000.

- c) **Arlington Park is not in used in the summer time because there are no shade trees.**

Staff will be planting trees around the playground area within the next 60 days. It should be noted that the trees will not provide shade immediately. For more information please contact Park and Recreation Director Ralph Nuñez at (951) 826-2000.

Resident #8

Some crossing guards recently met at the Janet Goeske Senior Center because there is no forum to find out the status of the crossing guard budget. Resident would like advance notice of pending budget decision regarding crossing guards.

The date for which this issue will be brought before the City Council is not known at this time. The City Council Agenda is published by the City Clerk's Office in advance and is available online through the City's web site (www.riversideca.gov). For more information, please contact Traffic Bureau Commander Lt. Ken Carpenter at (951) 351-6039.

Resident #9

Sierra Street is in deplorable condition. Why isn't it being repaired?

Sierra Street between Streeter Avenue and Palm Avenue is scheduled for rehabilitation as part of the Minor Street Rehabilitation-Phase 2 project. Construction is expected to start in June 2005. For more information, please contact Public Works Director Brian Nakamura at (951) 826-5341.

Resident #10

Apartment building has rats and mold. Trying to work with the landlord. What can be done about rats and mold?

The Code Compliance Manager contacted the tenant after obtaining the resident's address at Mayor's Night Out and conducted a visual exterior inspection of the property. Contact with the

tenant and the management company was made and an appointment to conduct an interior inspection has been scheduled. If violations/substandard conditions are found at the time of the inspection a notice to correct will be issued to the manager, and the owners will be given approximately three weeks to correct the conditions. If compliance is not gained, follow up enforcement will commence, which could include citations and administrative fines. The process will continue until the required corrections are made. For more information, please contact Public Works Director Brian Nakamura at (951) 826-5341.

Resident #11

- a) **Disappointed that Save-On was allowed to build on Magnolia Avenue. Why was this allowed?**

A General Plan Amendment and a Zone Change were considered by the City Council at an advertised public hearing. After taking testimony from all concerned, including the public, the City Council approved the proposal and the Sav-On was ultimately built. For more information, please contact Planning Director Ken Gutierrez at (951) 826-5371.

- b) **Riverside has a wonderful program for mentally retarded adults, called Friendly Stars. It doesn't get the recognition it deserves.**

The Friendly Stars program meets most Friday nights (excluding major holidays) at Hunt Park (4015 Jackson St.) from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. It is a social recreation program for the developmentally disabled adults (18 and over). Activities include: arts & crafts, dancing, movie nights, karaoke, special events, etc. Registration is every 6 months and costs \$55.00 for City residents and \$97 for Non-Residents. Registration takes place in May and November. Registration packets are sent to all participants of the program and for those who are on a waiting list. Program is on a first come, first serve basis (max 250 participants). The program has a kick-off night for Registration held at Hunt Park. After that night, registration is held at Dales Senior Center from 9 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the Recreation Services Coordinator at (951) 826-2047 or Assistant Recreation Coordinator Erica Elkins (951) 826-2048.

- c) **Sidewalks are needed on Wayne Court, between Magnolia and Crawford.**

The Public Works Department will evaluate the request for construction of sidewalk on the westerly side of Wayne Court between Magnolia Avenue and Garfield Street for fiscal year 05/06. The proposed sidewalk will require removal of at least seven mature trees and will impact fences, walls and landscaping on several properties along the westerly side of Wayne Court. The Public Works Department will need cooperation from all property owners impacted by the proposed sidewalk construction. For more information, please contact Public Work Director Brian Nakamura at (951) 826-5341.